



Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences Section – 20??

I23 When Juveniles Commit Murder: An Overview of Facts and Challenges

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After attending this presentation, attendees will have a basic understanding of the different types of juvenile homicide, characteristics of the juvenile offenders and the way the juvenile justice system and the adult criminal courts handle them.

This presentation will impact the forensic community and/or humanity by raising awareness into the need for further studies about juvenile violent behavior and the special challenges that this population present to the courts.

The presentation will offer a general overview of the different types of juvenile homicide with an emphasis on psychiatric factors that might lead to the crime. The authors will review psychiatric diagnoses that are related to an increase incidence in violence. The presentation will include a review of psychological factors that affect the legal procedures, such as competence, or that might serve as mitigating circumstances, such as history of abuse. There will be a short description of other aspects that might affect the jury's attitude towards the juvenile offender.

This presentation will review some of the most relevant elements of the judicial system and its historical background, including a description of cases that had an impact on current laws. Controversial topics will be addressed, such as the insanity defense in the juvenile population and the dilemma of what is appropriate punishment. The authors will talk about concerns regarding punishment, such as life imprisonment and executions, the latter no longer allowed. There will be a review of what is currently available for the rehabilitation of this population.

The authors will review several cases that will highlight the facts and challenges described above.

Juvenile crime, Homicide, Psychiatry